



MONTEREY NEWS

MAY 1999
VOLUME XXIX · Number 5



The Town

Town meeting. The annual town meeting will be held at the Firehouse on Saturday, May 1, at 9:30 a.m. The election of Town Officers will be held the same day, also at the Firehouse. The Select Board and Finance Committee have spent much of the past month working out the details of the town budget. Residents will vote on the budget and other items at the meeting. As

usual all, residents will receive notification by mail of the articles to be considered, which include a new sign bylaw and funding for a new truck for the Highway Department, for Fire Department equipment, and for painting the Library. The Select Board and staff of the *Monterey News* encourage citizens of the town to attend and actively participate in this and all town meetings.

Changes in transfer station and recycling policies. At the risk of re-

dundancy we are highlighting two major transfer station changes here. Both the following policies will require considerable change in the habits of Monterey residents. For more detail, please refer to Joyce Sheffey's Solid Waste article on page 4 in this month's *News*.

1. Effective immediately, all residents are required to turn off car engines before leaving your vehicle at the transfer station. A near tragic incident



Bell view

recently at the transfer station precipitated this policy.

2. Effective May 1, all plastic containers should be recycled by placing them in the same dumpster as metal and glass. Plastic must be crushed in order to maximize dumpster space. Most important, all lids and caps must be removed from containers. All plastic lids and caps are no longer recyclable and must be thrown in the garbage. Metal lids may go into recycling, but separately.

If we do not comply with these new regulations, we risk having entire recycling dumpsters rejected at the collection destination. Such a rejection would be very costly to the town. The town is relying on all residents to change their habits and remove and discard plastic lids and caps into the regular garbage. They are *not* recyclables.

Update on Town Office renovation. The town is actively pursuing barrier removal funding, for the Town Office renovation project. The Select Board went to Boston on April 14 to meet again with Robert Shumeyko of the Department of Housing and Community Development to show revised plans drawn by architect David Bixby. The plans address only the barrier removal aspects of the Town Office renovation which will ensure handicap accessibility to the building. The Select Board plan to take all steps necessary to secure funding for this project.

Two town posts open for appointment. The town is in need of a new

Chair for the Council on Aging. The post, recently vacated by Pauline Nault, involves general administration of the Council. Duties include submitting appropriate grants to state and federal agencies and answering inquiries by mail or phone that relate to the Council. Anyone who has an interest in serving the town in this capacity or has more detailed questions about the position should contact Ms. Nault or any member of the Select Board. Since this position is currently vacant, the Select Board is anxious to fill it as soon as possible.

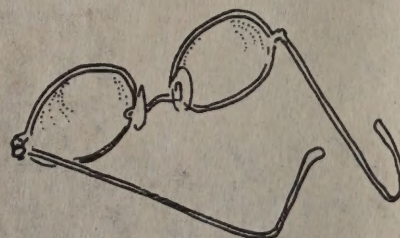
In addition, Jed Lipsky has announced his intention to resign from the School Committee, leaving an opening in need of immediate filling. Mr. Lipsky cited a need to spend more time with his family as the primary reason for his resignation. This position is now one appointed by the Select Board. Anyone who has questions or wishes to express interest in representing Monterey on the School Committee should contact members of the Select Board as soon as possible.

Property tax exemptions for the elderly. Modest property tax exemptions are available to the elderly through the state. "Elderly persons, age 70 years or greater, who meet certain annual income, assets and residency requirements may receive property tax relief through certain exemptions" (City &

Town, March 1999). The most important exemption falls under Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41 and provides a \$500 exemption for qualified elderly taxpayers. To qualify for this exemption annual income and whole estate gross receipts must be below \$13,000 for a single person and \$15,000 for married individuals. To date, only two taxpayers from the Town of Monterey have taken advantage of this exemption. Those who think they might qualify may contact the Select Board or Tax Collector for further information.

I Love Monterey Day set for July 17. Plans for the I Love Monterey Day celebration are coming along. We hope to be able to include the ringing of the restored Meeting House bell in the parade that day. Look for a full schedule of events in the June and July *Monterey News*. The next meeting of the I Love Monterey Day committee is Monday, May 17, at 6 p.m. at the town offices.

— Amy Goldfarb



ALTERATIONS CUSTOM TAILORING

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Weekends best — Leave message

The *Monterey News* is published monthly under the auspices of Monterey United Church of Christ, Monterey, MA 01245.

WE'VE MOVED!

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(Formerly on Main Road next to Roadside Store)

After almost 18 years of operation on Main Road in Monterey, we were finally forced to admit that we had outgrown our two locations here in town. So we've relocated to a 4800 sq. ft. facility (soon to be 7200 sq. ft. with a new state-of-the-art paint department) on Route 7, 1.5 miles south of the old fairgrounds. We'd like to invite all of our friends and customers to stop in and say hello, to take a look around our new shop. And as always, we offer free pickup and delivery, and lifetime collision repair and PPG paint guarantees. Thank you for your support.

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Blue Hill Subdivision Moving to Court

The Old Beartown Road, which connects Beartown State Forest to Blue Hill Road, is not very long or wide, but it sits in the midst of large controversy.

At present, a possible development that could almost double the number of residential properties near Blue Hill Road is temporarily on hold as parties pro, con, and in the middle are going to court to try to resolve the situation. The main question is, does Joanne B. Brett Simms have the legal right to use the road as right-of-way to her 68-plus acres of land?

At its monthly meeting on April 8, the Planning Board acknowledged that they had received from Maureen Bradley Haugh's lawyer copies of the pending lawsuits. An abutter to the road, Haugh has filed a lawsuit in Land Court seeking determination of Simms' rights to use the strip of land currently owned

by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Haugh is also seeking to restrain Simms from using the part of Old Beartown Road that passes through Haugh's property. In addition, since Simms has already made numerous changes to that part of the road, Haugh would like her to restore it to its prior condition.

Concurrently, Simms is suing the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) in Superior Court to allow her free passage over the road.

There are several possible outcomes, from very restrictive usage to an okay for a development. If Simms has unlimited right of way, the Planning Board would have to look at the zoning bylaws and the physical status of road; then, based on the amount of frontage Simms owns and the state of the road, the board would give its opinion on how many lots she legally has.

Last summer, DEM's in-house lawyer wrote that Simms could not "access the premises from Blue Hill Road based

on these documents [1940 deeds conveying the roadway strip to the Commonwealth] alone." An outside lawyer hired by DEM was more favorable about Simms's access rights.

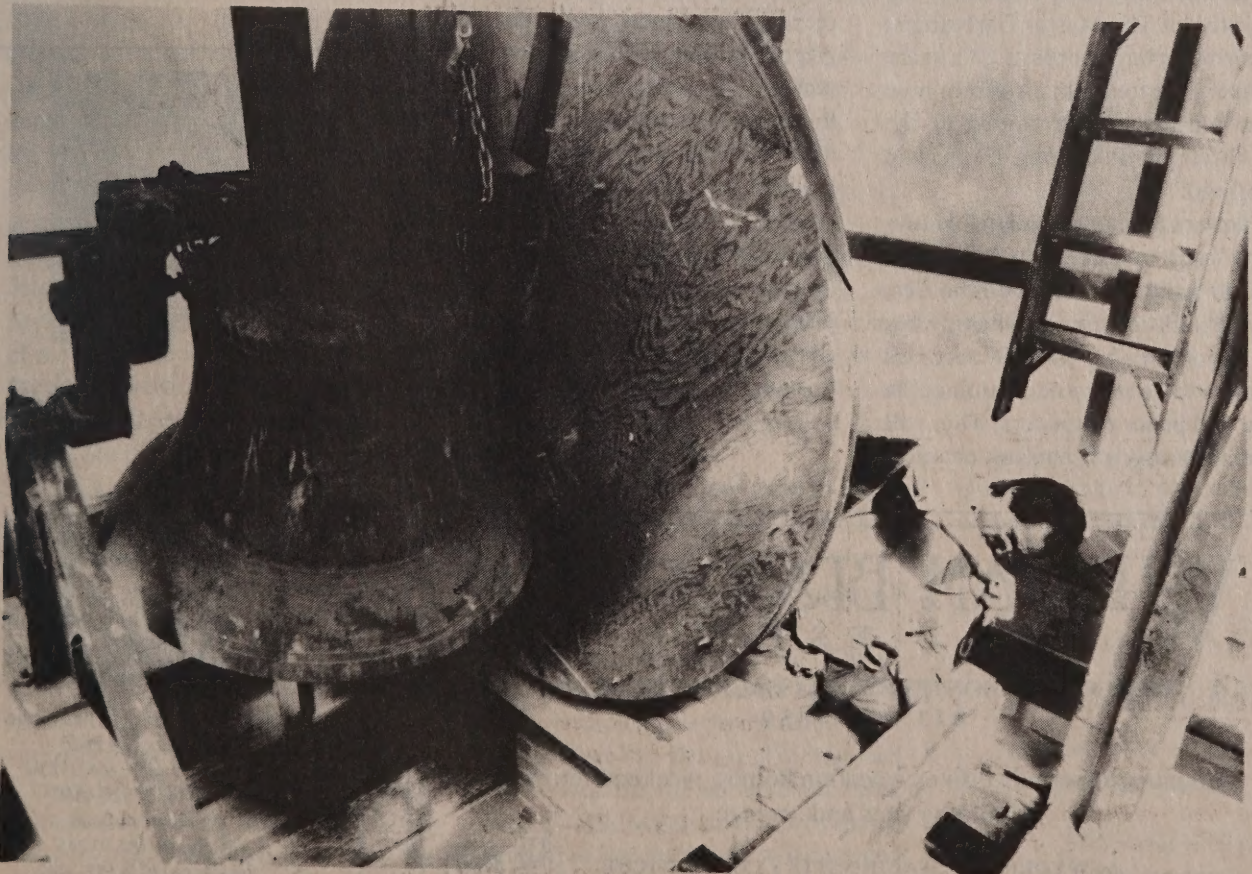
— Karen Shreefter

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at the
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Meeting House belfry—Kurt Hoelter at work

Big News from Solid Waste Committee

The Transfer Station: Work will finally begin. Rudy Gero and Peter Vallianos, our volunteer committee, have been working together and meeting with engineers, cement layers, fence builders, and container movers. Trying to coordinate all these meetings and deciding who should do what when was time consuming and frustrating to say the least. However, thanks to their hard work we are hoping to get underway in June. During that time it will be necessary to close the current facility. The town garage property will be the collection point for that period. The Master Garbologist has agreed to provide small containers, accessible from above for both recyclables and trash. It would save on hauling charges and congestion if people can save some of their recyclables, such as papers, plastics, bottles, etc., until the new facility is ready.

Plastics Recycling Changes: Up to the present The Master Garbologist has been recycling our plastic. They are no longer able to do this, so from now on our plastic will be hauled to the MRF (Material Recycling Center) in Springfield.

Please take note of the MRF guidelines: Plastic containers will now be placed in same container with bottles, cans, and milk containers. It has always been important, but now it becomes even more so, to stomp on all stomposable plastic and paper containers. This will save enormously on hauling charges.

Uncrushed plastic takes up a huge amount of container room, and there is no sense in our paying to haul air all the way to Springfield.

Another very important change: We can no longer include lids of plastic containers and bottles, as we could with The Master Garbologist. Steve Ellis, the MRF manager, tells me that the tops are made up of a different component than bottles and cannot be recycled or included. Regretfully, these will now have to be put into the trash compactor. I advised him that this was a big change for us and asked for some leniency, but he was firm—his workers cannot take the time to remove caps and will return loads that have them.

Our noble Transfer Station Attendant, Bob Curtis, has been alerted to these changes and will guide people through them. We will have some signs made as well.

Composting Bins And Recycling Containers: We have around twelve composting bins. They are \$25 each—first come, first serve. Call me at 528-0550.

We also have seventy of the "blue" recycling containers, except this batch is green. We couldn't figure out an equitable way to distribute seventy containers to our vast population, so we decided to dole them out to people who read this article. The words "lids are a no-no", or "stomp on them plastics" will do it for you. As the containers were acquired through a state grant due to our exemplary recycling record, there will be no charge for them. Call Kathleen at the town offices—528-4331.

— Joyce Scheffey

Daffodil Days

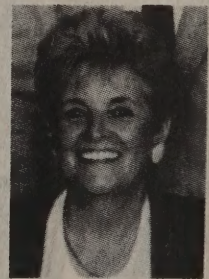
The report from Pat Mielke is that Monterey crew sold 295 bunches of daffodils this year. That's fifteen more than last year and \$1475 donated to the Cancer fund.

Thanks to Gayle and Maynard for storing the flowers and distributing them, and to Maynard for donating flowers for the elderly.

The following made phone calls and collected the money: Shelley Bynack, Jane Black, Faith Connelly, Leona Chamberlain, Ruth Champigny, Stephanie Grotz, Maureen Hough, Debbie Mielke, Michelle Miller, Vicki Reed, Bob Rausch, Kathy Roth, Nancy Rowley, Monica Wahlberg, Anita Carroll-Weldon, and Cynthia Webber, who delivered to the elderly.

Monterey is depended upon to support this drive well and does! Thanks to the efforts of all the workers and donors it was a good year.

In appreciation,
— Fran Amidon



Linda Rabiner Hebert
Broker Associate, GRI, CRS, CRB



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Wards Celebrate 65th Wedding Anniversary

On September 20, 1998, the Reverend W. Raymond Ward, and his wife Mary (Black) Ward celebrated their sixty-fifth wedding anniversary. They were married on September 15, 1933, at the bride's home in Williamsburg, Massachusetts. The bridal couple were attended by their parents, John Milton Black and his wife Alta E. Black, and Willard E. Ward and his wife Adeline W. Ward. The late Rockwell Harmon Patter, then dean of the Hartford Seminary Foundation, officiated at the wedding ceremony. Ray earned a Masters of Divinity degree and Mary earned a degree in Religious Education at Hartford Seminary, graduating in 1935.

Ray then served a church in Barkhamstead, Connecticut, one in Conway, Massachusetts, and one in Princeton Maine, before coming to Monterey to take over as Gould Farm's dairy farm manager. After leaving Gould Farm, Ray took over the Congregational Church in Monterey. Ray was very active with the church's young people's group, the Pilgrim Fellowship. He was as dedicated to those young people as he was to his own children, and they loved him in return. He took them everywhere in the pursuit of the Pilgrim Fellowship's principles of Faith, Action, and Fellowship, and some of them, even now, are acting upon the example and the leadership that Ray brought to his service of Monterey's young people.

During this time, Ray served the town as a member of the Board of Public Health, as the Town Clerk, and as First Selectman. He drove school busses for the Monterey schools, Searles High School, and later Mt. Everett Regional High School. He also drove busses for several of Monterey's private summer camps including Jayson's Camps. He was active in the Monterey Grange and a local camera club. Mary was very active in Ladies Aid and in the church outreach system. She was also busy raising their three daughters Leslie, Sally, and Louise.



Seated: The Rev. W. Raymond Ward and Mary (Black) Ward. Standing (l. to r.): Curtis Paine, Leslie Paine, Sally Pullen, Steve Pullen, George Henry, Louise Henry.

In 1956, Ray took over the United Church of Christ Congregational Church in Monroe, Connecticut, serving there for ten years. The town and the church in Monroe grew quickly soon needing two worship services every Sunday. Mary and her daughter Louise taught Sunday School, and Louise sang in the world-class choir with her sister Sally. Mary taught elementary school in the public school system during that same period, from 1956 to 1966.

From Monroe, Ray went to Mansfield Center, Connecticut, to serve the UCC Church there, again staying ten years in one ministry; Mary again taught public elementary school.

Ray and Mary retired in 1976, returning to Monterey—their home. After retirement Ray again became active in the Monterey Grange, holding various offices. He was on the finance committee for the town, served the Monterey Church as interim pastor when needed, and served in other church offices. Mary served as clerk of the church and was head of the Board of Deacons. Several

years ago Ray and Mary were made Pastor Emeritus and Deacon Emeritus by a grateful congregation. They felt honored by it and were pleased.

The Wards were guests of honor at an open house at their home at 409 Main Road in Monterey given by their daughters and their husbands, Leslie and Curtis Paine of Sutton, Massachusetts, Sally and Steve Pullen of Burlington, Vermont, and Louise and George Henry of Williamsburg, Massachusetts. All guests were most welcome, and those who could not come were indeed missed.

— Louise Henry

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Monterey Preservation Land Trust

It's all good news from the MPLT. Joyce Scheffey, who has worked 100% in all of our land acquisitions, has retired as president, but will continue on the board. We welcome Suzanne Hoppenstedt as our new president. Other board members are taking on a share of the responsibilities of keeping the mission of MPLT alive and well. Joyce, of course, will be behind the elbow of each of us. Kathryn Roberts has agreed to be secretary, recording and mailing board meetings minutes. Storrs Olds will continue to oversee our trust lands. He, with Peter Vallianos's help, has done a fine job of creating an inventory, and Gerry Shapiro has graciously agreed to help us with the mapping of our lands. Peter, our attorney, is vital to overseeing the legal work and the handling of donations and conservation restrictions. Joyce and Gige O'Connell will keep track of membership and mailings. Andi Dunlop does a super job as treasurer. Yours Truly will handle publicity and doing a

Monterey News column as required.

On April 14, Peter Tucker, our for-
ester, and Yan Capretz, logger, put in a
day's work and opened up the two vis-
tas on our Mount Hunger trail. This
work was part of our Stewardship In-
centive Program (SIP) grant. The state
pays for three-fourths of the work. The
views are spectacular; the first one on
the left offers an unobstructed view of
Mt. Livermore (also a part of Trust



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lands) and on to the Catskills on a
perfect day. The other vista is situated
where the current trail ends and over-
looks Tyringham and Lee. The follow-
ing Saturday a work crew consisting of
Sandy Banks, Suzanne, Jon Sylbert and
his friend Zeb, Storrs, Joyce and two

friends of hers, Ken & Pat Herlihy,
went to work clearing out the debris left
by the vista clearing operation. Peter
Tucker will be flagging the rest of the
trail in the near future to complete the
rest of our SIP commitment. There will
be plenty to do when the flagging is
done, and we hope you will be able to
help when the time comes. For fun, you
might volunteer too. The fund-raising
for the Mount Hunger project was a

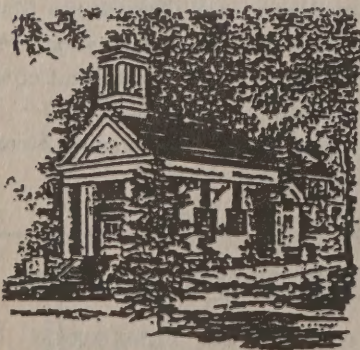
community effort, and
the trail making should
be too. Call Storrs at
528-4486 or Suzanne at
528-1786.

Incidentally, we are
looking for someone
handy who might be
willing to put up a
simple bulletin board at
the entrance to the trail,
such as the one at the
beginning of Diane's
Trail at Gould Farm. Are
you such a one, or do
you know such a one?

Plans are underway
to have MPLT tee-shirts
for sale at the I Love
Monterey Day festivi-

ties on July 17th. We're looking for a
natural hemp cloth that is insect resis-
tant. We're also looking for a catchy
message—any ideas? Call Suzanne.

As we ask you to join us and
renew your memberships, we should



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For Information and Assistance:

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remind you of our mission. Here is a quote from our mission statement: The MPLT "will promote for the benefit of the townspeople the preservation of natural resources and open spaces and it will be the focus of the trust to preserve much of Monterey's remaining farmland in agricultural production, to protect waterways, ponds and lakes, and to set aside a sufficient portion of Monterey's forest land to preserve Monterey's rural character." How can you help? Membership begins on an annual basis at \$10, and we appreciate whatever more you can contribute.

What does the Land Trust do? How does it work? What is its role in keeping the rural character that makes Monterey so terrific? There are options for donating land to a land trust. Landowners may donate without stipulations, which would give the trust sole jurisdiction over what happens to the land. Or they might prefer a conservation restriction, which allows them to retain title to their property and take part in planning its future, such as creating a wildlife preserve, permanent open space, a building envelope, a forestry project. There are many options. In a conservation restriction, or easement (same thing), the landowner would be donating his/her development rights only to the Land Trust and not the land itself. This serves to decrease the value of the land, creating tax advantages (although not as extensive ones as an outright donation would offer) while still keeping the land free from development regardless of who eventually holds the deed. More information? Call Peter Vallianos at 528-0055.

Our annual meeting will be held on the Sunday following I Love Monterey Day, July 18, at 11 a.m. on the Mt. Hunger property. We will offer a hike, and you are welcome to bring a picnic.

Hope to see you soon and certainly at the Annual Meeting. We hope to see lots of current and new members then and before.

— Jane Black

Faith and Reason: A Discussion Group

Beginning Tuesday evening, May 4, from 7 to 8:30, there will be a series of discussions entitled "Jesus, Faith and Practice." Using six 25-minute videos, we will focus on the following topics:

1. What should we believe about Jesus?
2. Was Jesus *really* a peacemaker?
3. Should Christians worship Jesus?
4. Are Christianity and patriotism compatible?
5. What should Christians do about the death penalty?
6. The nature of Christ.

The video tapes feature laypersons and



theologians discussing the meaning of and interface between traditional Christian beliefs and human reason. The meetings will spark your thoughts and help us examine what we believe! Everyone is welcome. For more information call 528-5850.

— Keith Snow



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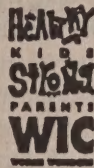
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Sneak preview: A group of the Monterey Piecemakers at work on the quilt to be raffled this summer for the Bidwell House. The blue and white quilt features the Ohio Star motif and Deerfield style embroidery.

Monterey Piecemakers Update

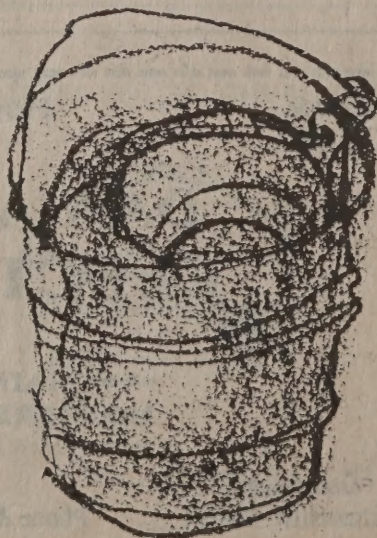
We're in the lap-quilting phase. That means that the five major sections of "Stars in the Garden" are being quilted independently of one another, and then the quilt will be constructed—firmly built—from its pre-quilted parts.

What's the advantage to lap quilting instead of stretching the whole quilt on a frame for traditional quilting? With our schedules, this way more of us get to work each week, rather than only at a designated place and time. Other than that, the stitching method is the same, and this way we're more likely to keep the crisp blues and snowy white fabric clean.

In the middle of April, we laid the five pieces out on a king-sized bed to see how the whole quilt looks. It was the first time we'd seen all five parts together so near completion, and we began to discuss empty-nest syndrome as soon as we saw it. It will fit perfectly well on either a king size bed, queen size bed, or large museum wall!

Soon we'll be stitching the finished sections together, binding the quilt and making it ready for its public debut. Stay tuned!

— MaryKate Jordan



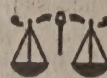
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New Marlborough/ Monterey School News

No TV week was a success judging from the stickers that covered the big screen paper television at New Marlborough Central. It's a sure bet this activity will be back next year with even more outstanding results.

The PTA reports another well-attended Scholastic Book Fair. In all, about six hundred books went out the door of NMC. Now that's a lot of reading! Thanks to the PTA for sponsoring such a worthwhile event.

April 2, the Southern Berkshire Regional School District's entire fourth grade took a field trip to the Boston Science Museum. The trip gave the students an opportunity to spend a day with their peers prior to merging as a fifth grade next fall. They experienced some wonderful hands-on exhibits, took in a planetarium show, a lightning demonstration, and an I-Max theater presentation on Alaska. From the early morning meeting time (6:50 a.m.!) to the 8 p.m. arrival home, this group of fourth graders had a trip they won't soon forget.

April is a big testing month. The third grade is taking the Iowa Reading Tests. The fourth, eighth, and tenth grades take the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System or MCAS. Keep those pencils sharp!

Shared Discovery has focused on Africa this year. The children have explored north, central, and now southern Africa. They have learned songs, eaten regional food, and explored the pyramids. Just recently they were treated to a visit by The Reverend Art Kaufman, whose daughter Joy is a Peace Corp volunteer in Senegal. The students were shown slides of the village where Joy works. Reciprocating, NMC will be sending photos of life in an American school, books and Kool-Aid (it makes the water taste better). They really mean *share* in Shared Discovery.

— Debbie Mielke

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Summer Nature Walks with Bonner McAllester

Bonner McAllester will lead a series of nature walks in Monterey on Thursday mornings in July, 9:00–10:30 a.m. The walks are open to anyone and will take place rain or shine. The meeting place will be in the center of town,

on the steps of the church or else in the church social room (basement). Bonner is a local naturalist with many years' experience introducing people of all ages to the wonders of the woods, large and small. For more information, call Bonner: 528-9385. The nature walks are supported, in part, by a grant from the Monterey Cultural Council. The cost to participants is \$2 per person, per walk.

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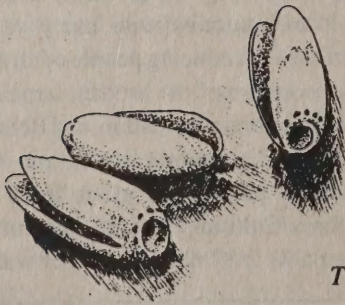
Flight

*Wind rushing through my hair
Holding me aloft
I turn to catch a new breeze
And rise higher
Approaching the clouds
Yet tied to the earth*

*My wings work straining against the
thin air
The pure joy of flight
Overwhelms all else
I belong in the sky
Flying free*

*If I could never touch the ground
I would be happy*

— Simon Spagnoletti



*This carapace of wits
This polished armor
That once reflected truth,
Is now a shifting shield
Of practiced brilliance
A calcified shell.
Of polished response,
Layer upon layer,
In time hardened to a hood
That hides the flesh of dreams
Decaying to quiet horror*

— Nick Hardcastle

Lilac Time

*Time never is so forceful,
so apparent a swine,
As during the lilacs.*

— Peter Shepley

Dread

*I have something in me
That is not perfect
It is an aberration of life
Growth gone mad
A proliferation, mutation
That thrives without
benevolence
Pushing aside my existence
Devouring my sanctity,
My frail certainty.
It lives without regard
For anything I have become
Or would be
I cannot defeat it
It must be cut out
And the well
That held my children
Will be gone
Leaving nothing
But a whisper of oblivion
A sibilance of fear
In the darkness
The shuffling sound of division,
Little steps of death
In me*

— Lesley Givet

EGYPT: Sunset at Saqqara

*The only place I ever walk through wafers of light
flakes of laughter and playful love
even the dust is luminous
and when you and I niche ourselves
either side the carved god
we become as gods and free him
to follow the now absent guide*

*the step-pyramid of Zoser
is heavy only in the text of paradox*

*Saqqara cascades sacred light
from its gleaming temples
and as we leave—
a pack of famished yellow dogs with slender tails
hooped black against the flaming desert sky*

*we watch a splendor—
serenely smiling Ra descending past a parabolic dune
feeding them some crumbs of human odyssey.*

— A.O. Howell

One Suspects

*Another destiny. Not the one ordained,
or the one suspended by an archeologist
above a river,
unremarkable but for
its extinguished characteristics;
A muddy residue
Of life.*

— Peter Shepley

Primavera Pushing

*proud peeper from the ponds
poor prince of the pea patch
cure me close like miso
like mama's green scallions*

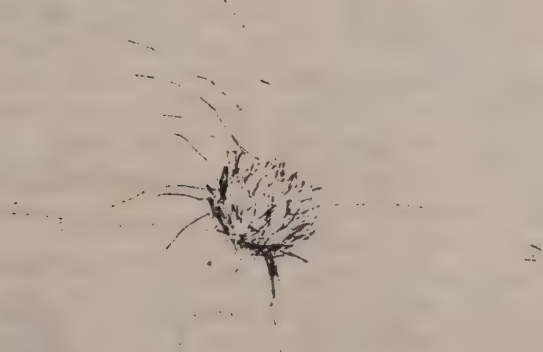
*enlighten this hollow dome
with rhythm ancient old
zen master woodpecker
make the first line swiftly*

*thrust upon the napkin
spears of asparagus
bisque verte or bruscetta
of the newly risen*

*it's the cook that inspires
love affairs with humus
the moist black shield against
the blood thirsty nations*

*primavera pushing
all the limits of our
range of sonic pitch and
lick and focal trysting*

— R. Zukowski



Spicy Lightning: Wintergreen

Some years we get our peas in by April 1, and I knew a man here in Monterey who said he and his dad used to get out in a January thaw with a pickax to put peas in the ground. By April many people have seedlings coming along on the windowsills, or under lights, and we home gardeners are lusting after fresh produce from out back. Some of us nibble on our lettuce thinnings, but those babies don't have much flavor. The truth is, the main harvest we get this early is rocks, and I have taken several buckets of these from my garden already this year.

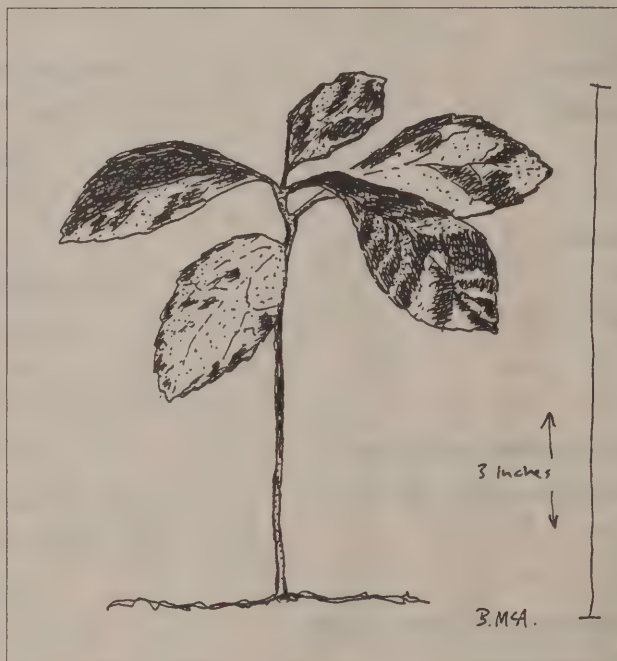
For edible fresh forage, the place to look is in the woods. I know that some people have eaten skunk cabbage, after much boiling, and certainly the marsh marigolds are coming along any day now. But today, the very middle of April, my daughter Cora and I had a feast right near home of pungent red wintergreen berries. They have been out there all winter, ripening and fattening, and today we found them at their peak of tasty perfection.

Wintergreen is a low creeping shrubby plant of the shady woods in high elevations of the United States and Canada. It is also called teaberry, birchberry, boxberry, spiceberry or ground holly, and its leaves are almost as tasty as its berries. Ever since they were little kids, my daughters have loved to chew on the evergreen leathery leaves of wintergreen plants, sucking the spicy aromatic juices and oils from them the way you would from chewing gum, and then spitting out the spent bolus. The leaves are available any time of year and are easy to spot. They are shiny, with toothed margins, and grow near the top of tough little woody "trunks" about three inches tall.

When it blooms in the summer, wintergreen produces little cuplike bells

that hang singly from the leaf axils, the places where the leaves attach to the "trunk." The blossoms are pale pink and waxy-looking and later develop bright red berries consisting of a fleshy calyx around a small capsule with many tiny seeds.

The particular essence of wintergreen, whether you know it from the Monterey woods or from a candy, is



methyl salicylate or $C_6H_4OHCOOCH_3$. It is one of about 150 commercially important "essential oils" (also called "volatile" or "ethereal"), which include bitter almond, cinnamon, clove, eucalyptus, lavender, lemon, sweet orange, rose, sandalwood, peppermint, and spearmint. Most of these are extracted from their plant sources by steam distillation, something we once tried here in an effort to make perfume. We enjoyed only moderate success.

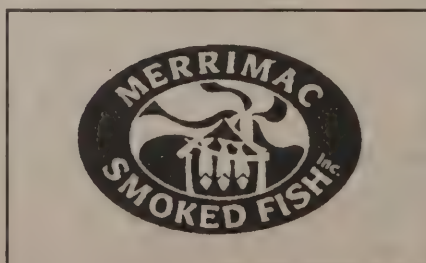
Wintergreen oil is used in flavor-

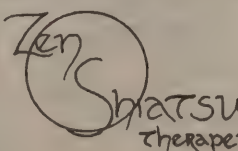
ing candy and gum and in treating aching muscles. It is also good for making perfumes, insecticides, and various kinds of polish that need to smell nice. We put some leaves to soak in a little bottle of vodka to produce wintergreen extract. It made a kind of murky concoction, and when we take the cap off and sniff it we are sure it would make good flavoring, but so far we haven't tried it in any cookies or cakes

Besides smelling and tasting so special, wintergreen flavoring is photoluminescent. According to my *Dictionary of Science*, this means it can absorb light of high frequency, not visible to the human eye, and re-emit it in "installments of discrete lower frequencies." This effect can be seen in a dark room or closet if you chomp on wintergreen LifeSavers with your mouth open (bad manners, yes, but this is for Science). Light of very high, not-visible frequency is produced by smashing up the sugar crystals in the candy. The wintergreen absorbs this, shifts it to visible light, and emits it. The more wintergreen in a given candy, the more sparks you will see jumping out of your mouth in a dark room.

Peas and lettuce will be lovely when they finally roll around. They will taste fine in the garden, at the table, or anywhere. But they didn't crop up on their own from the sandy soil of Hunger Mountain and ripen all winter under the snow, and they won't gather light and shoot sparks from your mouth in a dark room. They do not have that brand of mountain magic.

— Bonner J. McAllester





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Enjoying the Gifts of Taurus

(April 21 - May 20)

A few decades ago—just an instant according to the sensibilities of folks born under the the zodiac sign Taurus, who often have a deep and abiding reverence for history and antique—Julie Andrews played Queen Guinevere on Broadway. One of the now familiar songs she sang let the audience know “It’s May, it’s May, the lusty month of May...” Andrews conveyed the double meaning of the word *lusty* enthusiastically, her voice and facial expression communicating clearly Guinevere’s delight in the burgeoning of spring, both in the world and in her body.

Most of May is the season of Taurus on the astrological calendar. As the song suggests, along with respecting the past, Taureans also tend toward lustiness. Not necessarily lusty as we currently use the word to imply an unhealthy hunger, but lusty in the older sense of the word, meaning one who has an appreciation for the gifts of the body and of the earth.

This gift of gratitude for the physical which is seen in Taurus often includes a love of gardening. Many Taureans work the earth, either as a primary occupation or as a hobby. The appreciation of the physical world can also be expressed in a talent for massage therapy, pottery, or banking.

Many Taureans seem to have both

a talent for philanthropy and the resources to indulge in gift giving.

Taurus has both lessons to teach and lessons to learn, as do all the signs of the zodiac. As a teacher, Taureans offer the rest of us lessons in patience. These lessons come through the example of the Taurean whose patience can be a force of nature like Mount Fuji. Or, the lessons in patience can be given in a backhanded way by Taureans who have yet to outgrow their talent for digging in all four heels and stubbornly sticking to a particular attitude, opinion, or frame of mind. The old cliché, “My mind is made up. Don’t confuse me with facts,” may have been coined with a Taurean in mind.

Flexibility, then, the ability to change with grace and ease when change is appropriate, is a primary life-lesson for Taureans. Considering that there are times when loyalty to the past might be a detriment rather than a virtue can be a shock to these folks, but is a skill to be developed. Then the gifts of stability and generosity can actually deliver what the Taurean hopes to offer: gifts that provision for a good life shared with family and friends. During the season of Taurus, meditate on the words of the Twenty-third Psalm: “The Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I need. He makes me to lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul...”

— MaryKate Jordan



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Day of the Mayfly

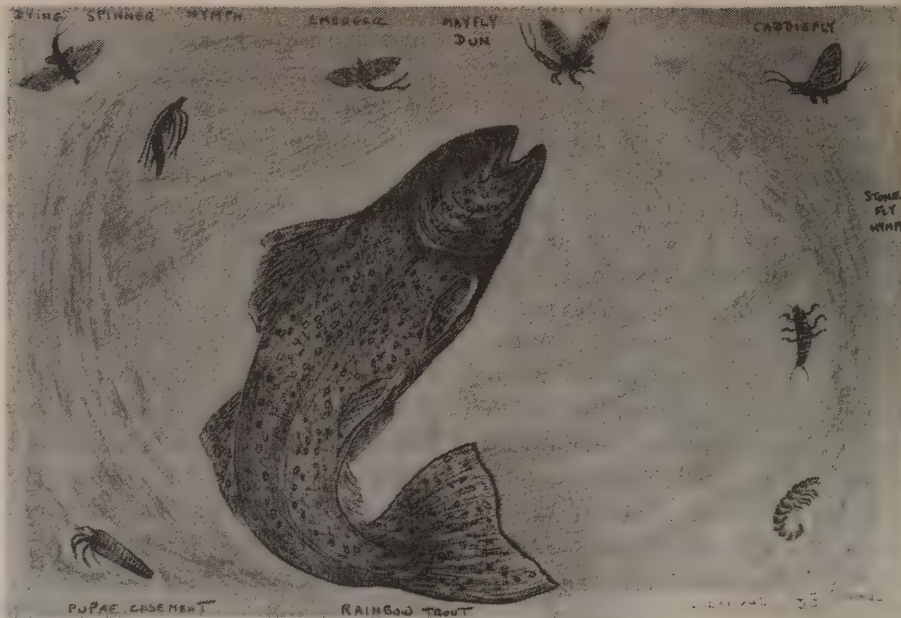
As the spring weather opens our winter doors to outdoor gardening and cleanup activities, our mortal taproots that tie us to the ground we walk on are felt on Earth Day, April 22, as we reconnect our bonding with the environment.

The first of May (May Day), in celebration of an emerging flora and fauna, may still get honorable mention with the adolescent theatrics of a pre-graduation ritual, the crowning of a May Queen with a garland of spring flowers, and then dancing around a maypole.

This month also brings the emergence of insects, and for the trout angler, the *day of the mayfly* is a long awaited event of freshwater fishing. Like the arrival of swallows at Capistrano, each species emerges from the bottom of lakes, ponds, and brooks.

Unlike the Berkshire black fly, which has its own terrestrial agenda, coming out of the ground to bite and badger us for a month or more, the mayfly minds its own business all year in underwater metamorphosis, until its one day on earth. At a clockwork stroke of compelling orchestration, each species of mayfly, stone fly, and caddis fly suddenly decides to swim up to the surface of the water, dry their wings, and then take off. As they begin to swarm like a bug festival, this is called a "hatch."

During a hatch, the most wary trout may lose their cool, throwing caution to the wind, caving in to their insatiable craving for a high protein diet. Each winged morsel is so charged with life-giving energy that a fish will jump out of the water to keep one from getting away.



a windfall for the angler
is a mayfly hatch
profiles of insect anatomy
a fisherman can match
imitations in entomology
the most discerning trout to catch

when rays of warming light
end the streambed's dormant night
curl larvae out of stony silence sleeping
crawl caddis from winter's casement
keeping
nymphs swim up in a race begun
to unfold dry wings and fly as a dun

once off the water, reproduction is in the air
opposites attract to pulsate as a pair
they dance until sunset, then spiral down
below
as dying spinners, sew eggs into the
flow
in just one day, the cycle is done
to perpetuate the species, the battle is won

If you are a flyfisherman, or
fisherwoman (women have been promi-

nent in the history of angling), a hatch is the best-case scenario to wave the artful wand of a graphite rod in one hand, while with the other skillfully mending (taking in) or stripping (letting out) line, to make an artificial fly look alive.

Trout angling can be traced back at least to seventeenth century England. In 1653, one Izaak Walton, a literary contemporary of John Donne and Samuel Pepys published the first Bible of Fishing. He called it *The Compleat Angler, or the Contemplative Man's Recreation*.

Tying flies in imitation of insects is a more ancient art form, going back almost two hundred years before that, to the olde Englyshe treatyse by Juliana Berners, prioress of a Benedictine Monastery in St. Albans. In her journals of 1496, she documents what she calls "the consistent seasonal cycle of the Mayefly." Her specifications of artificial flies to match the hatch are so exacting that they have been reproduced by the Anglers Club of New York, and mounted on parchment in the fastidious fifteenth-century manner, under the direction of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Four years after Columbus discovered America, the world of entomology came to know the "Day of the Mayfly."

— George Emmons

Christopher Blair

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The Family Network/ Children's Health, Inc.

The Advisory Board of the Family Network of Children's Health, Inc., announces the opening of a People's Pantry on May 6 at 11:30 a.m. at the garage next to St. James Church on Main Street, Great Barrington. The People's Pantry will be a supplement to existing food programs and will help to prevent hunger in the Great Barrington area. Volunteers and donations are needed.

The Rev. Kathy Duhon led the Hunger Committee, which met to study the hunger problems and established the Food Pantry Committee. Children's Health Program volunteer Beverly Parrette is coordinating the People's Pantry. Volunteers from several private, minority, and religious organizations are part of the committee.

The People's Pantry will be a self-select model, allowing people to select the food they need based on the size of their family. Users will be asked to volunteer to assist with the operation.

A potluck supper will initiate the People's Pantry on May 5 at 5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall at St. James Church. People are asked to bring a dish and come meet others involved with the Pantry.

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Felt Like Magic

Theresa May-O'Brien makes twenty-first century heirlooms out of felt. She not only makes hats, bags, and holiday ornaments but also makes the felt she works with. The felt she creates has about the same resemblance to the familiar sheets of crafters' felt as a Tiffany window has to a window screen.

She started felting, she says, after her first forays into knitting proved more time-consuming than a busy young mother's schedule allowed. For those who assume that anyone can put a little time aside to accommodate a simple craft, understand that Theresa's definition of "knitting" included tending the sheep and then cleaning, carding, spinning, and sometimes dyeing the wool before she got anywhere near her knitting needles. Felting, rather than knitting, became her forte with wool.

The best felting wool comes from Merino sheep, Theresa says. Although she purchases some of the wool she uses in her work, she also incorporates Berkshire-grown wool. The family keeps three sheep at High-

lands Farm where Theresa and her husband, Tom, also raise their sons Christopher, Tim, and Danny, and their daughter, Hailey.

Last April Theresa, who has experience in costume design, spent time in the Monterey schoolhouse with the children in Susan Anderson's kindergarten class. She directed the students, their teacher, and parent volunteers in creating whimsical animal masks for the children to wear during the poetry reading which was a highlight of their end-of-school-year celebration. They used the same felt-making techniques Theresa uses to make the somewhat-more-conventional hats she sells to a devoted local clientele.

Theresa is as sure as a person can be beforehand about where she'll be at the end of this month. Every Memorial Day weekend, she and her family participate in the Massachusetts Sheep and Wool Festival held at the Cummington Fairgrounds. At the end of June and during July, she will teach classes in both watercolor painting and in felting at the summer camp for kids at Flying Cloud in New Marlborough (413/229-2697). Next fall she may also offer a class at Interlaken School of Art in felting for both kids and adults.

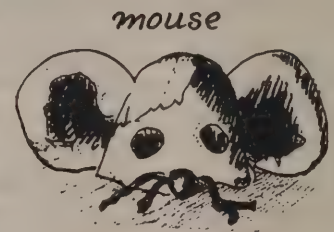
— MaryKate Jordan



turkey



cat



mouse



grasshopper



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Monterey Profile

Glynis Oliver and Will Marsh

When the tornado of 1995 ripped through town it put River Road out of commission for two years with a combination of wind, flood, and mayhem, just below the home of Will Marsh and Glynis Oliver. The wind leveled their garage and played jackstraws with the forest on the hillside behind them. As they watched, the French doors to their second-floor deck flew into the air, and one of them was neatly speared by a huge pine tree that came whirling down at the same moment.

As sometimes happens, out of disaster came improvement. A better garage replaced the old one, and the upstairs is the kind of spacious and elegant office/workroom that freelance editors usually inhabit only in their dreams. It became the *Monterey News* office, starting with the April 1999 issue.

Glynis (that's Welsh) came to the United States from England when she was fourteen. She has had a long interest in art and trained at the State University of New York, Farmingdale, in commercial art. Her first job was in printing and layout, then she moved on to production work at Marvel Comics, eventually becoming head of the coloring department. She found that she could do coloring at home and this was her chance to move from Queens to the Berkshires. She got here just in time for fall colors and the freak snowstorm of October 4, 1987.

Glynis began exploring the countryside, hiking over the hilltops, enjoyed Kripalu, met Alice Howell, heard about Monterey, and began looking for a house of her own. When she found the house on River Road, she saw it as the chance to fulfill her love for gardening. "For years my job was funding my gardening!" Marvel Comics downsized recently, and Glynis now has the time for another of her strong interests, watercolors. She is also participating in the country life by milking and doing other jobs at Rawson Brook Farm.

Will grew up in Monroe, North Carolina, and went into aerospace engineering at North Carolina State University.

While in school he worked at NASA, then for Boeing on the Lunar Orbiter program at Jet Propulsion Laboratory, where he was one of the first to see photographs of the back of the Moon. After a stint working at the Manned Spaceflight Center on the Apollo program, he realized that engineering was not his true interest and began to drop out, following a winding road that first took him through the Air Force, where he reached the level of captain.

Next he traveled in Europe, intending to go on to Africa for a grand tour, a plan aborted by a motorcycle crash in Spain. Still searching, he studied literature at Oregon State University, then joined an alternative educational community on Long Island named for Lindisfarne, the Celtic Christian monastery on an island off the coast of Northumbria, one of the centers where learning was kept alive in the Dark Ages. The focus was on what it means to be a true human being, and the staff included university professors, spiritual teachers, and others interested in transforming themselves and the culture. Alice Howell was one of the teachers.

In 1979 Will moved to West Stockbridge, where, with a partner, he started and ran the Lindisfarne Press for eleven years, seeking to publish works that would foster a culture based on per-



© WAYNE DUNLOP

manent values. They produced five to eight books a year at their peak but found the going difficult financially. In 1990 the press was sold to the Anthroposophic Press, and Will continues to work for them as a freelance editor. He also finds time for Scottish country dancing and enjoys his weekly sessions of cleaning out the goat barn at Rawson Brook Farm, still "trying to make my life whole."

Alice brought Will and Glynis together at a New Year's party a few years ago, knowing that they had much in common. Now they are combining their talents and interests in literature and the arts. The editorial needs of the *Monterey News* have come along at an opportune moment for them. Another of their pleasures is "Kino evenings" at Rosecroft (soup, conversation and video) with their friend and good angel, Alice Howell. They look forward to a wider acquaintance with the town through the long reach of the *Monterey News*.

— David P. McAllester

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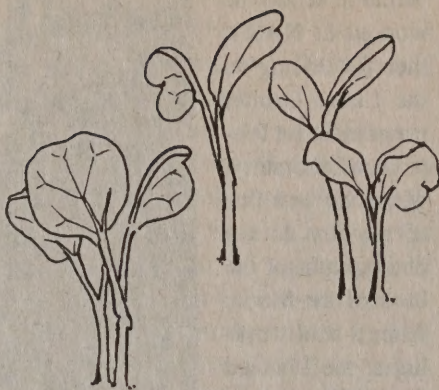
Personal Notes

Yesterday evening I parked in my driveway and was trapped in my car for a few minutes by hail and rain. So much for the spring weather we enjoyed earlier in the week, I thought, as I ran to the house. Then, today, the skies cleared and I dug the garden and planted peas. I'll never be bored by Berkshire weather, though I'm still waiting for a midsummer snowstorm.

Birthday greetings this month go out to **Cora Baker** on May 3, **Douglas Brown** on May 6, **Eoin Higgins** on May 8, **Tarsi Dunlop** on May 9, **Judah Piepho** on May 17, **Deirdre Higgins**, **Lincoln Lipsky**, and **Tess Dunlop** on May 22, **Chris Goldfinger** on May 26, and **Alexandra Newman** on May 29.

Happy Anniversary on May 6 to **Arnold and Kay Pratt**, on May 7 to **Bill and Jeanne Zad**, and to **Alf and Lena Pedersen** on May 22.

On April 15, while many of us were hurriedly completing our tax returns in time to beat the deadline, some Monterey residents were engaged in more lofty pursuits. Colm Higgins and Cora Baker were among the members of the Berkshire Children's Chorus performing live that morning on WAMC's "Off the Record." The children found



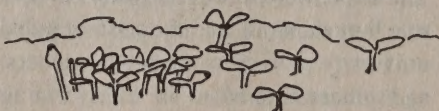
Morning Glories

out what is involved when a radio show goes on the air, and even met Alan Chartock.

We enjoy hearing your news, and passing on birthday and anniversary greetings. If you have any you would like to share, please drop me a line at P.O. Box 351, Monterey, MA 01245, if possible before the twelfth of each month. Thank you so much.

— Ann Higgins

Snapdragons



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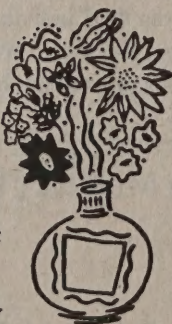
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Calendar

Saturday, May 1, Town meeting and election of town officers, 9:30 a.m. at the Firehouse.

Tuesday, May 4

International folk, contra, square, and line dancing, 7:30–9:30 p.m. at Gould Farm, led by Karl Finger. Full instruction, all welcome, refreshments. Contributions \$5 adults, \$2 children. Information, Kim at 528-1804 or Karl at 528-2963.

“Faith and Reason” discussion group, 7–8:30 p.m. Information, 528-5850 (see also p. 7).

Saturday, May 15

Father-child trip to Gould Farm, 10:30 a.m., rain or shine, sponsored by Family Network. Visit animals, hike Diane’s Trail. Mothers also invited. Free children’s talent afternoon, 4 p.m. at Sandisfield Arts Center, Hammerstein Rd., off Rt. 57 in Sandisfield. Information, 258-4904.

Monday, May 17, La Leche League, 10:30–noon at Guthrie Center, Great Barrington. Free advice and support for breastfeeding. Information and directions, Maureen at 528-6619.

Tuesday, May 18, Blood pressure clinic, 9–10:30 a.m. in basement of Town Offices, administered by Visiting Nurses Association.

Saturday, May 22, Square and contra dancing, 8:30–11:30 p.m. at the Sheffield Grange, Rt. 7, Sheffield, Mass. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Christine Hale. All dances are taught, and beginners and children are welcome. Refreshments at intermission. Adults \$5, children \$2. Information 413-528-9385 or 518-329-7578.

Saturday, May 29, Bidwell House Museum, Art School Rd., Monterey, opens for season. Hours 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tues.–Sat. Information 528-6888.

Monday, May 31, Monterey Town Offices closed for Memorial Day.

The Observer

March 26—April 25

High temp. (4/8) 70.9°
 Low temp. (4/11) 21.6°
 Avg. high temp. 54.3°
 Avg. low temp. 31.7°
 Avg. temp. 43.0°
 High bar. press. (4/5) 30.21"
 Low bar. press. (4/16) 29.44"
 High wind gust (4/8) 39 mph.
 Wind chilled low temp. (4/24) 5°
 Total precipitation
 (rain and melted snow) 2.29"
 Snowfall 0.5"
 Precipitation occurred on 16 days

Peter S. Vallianos Attorney at Law 528-0055

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I will meet with you at your home in Monterey.

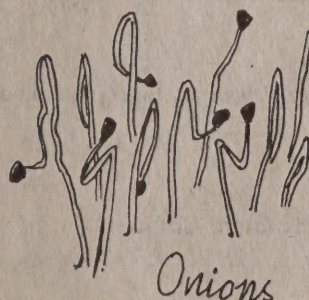
MONTEREY A LOCAL HISTORY

Edited by Peter Murkett, Ian Jenkins, & Kim Hines

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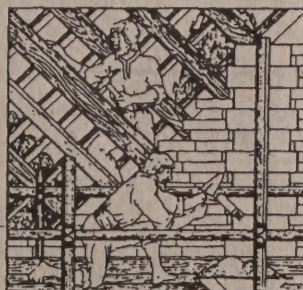


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Contributions from local artists this month: Caitlin Lally, pp. 8, 11; MaryKate Jordan, p. 16; Bonner McAllester, p. 12; Glynis Oliver, pp. 2, 7, 10, 18, 19.

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